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Message Text

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15
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W
---------- 018158
R 030535Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2102
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 5396

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG,EFIN,JA,ID
SUBJECT: ENERGY (CERP/EAL): EXIM FINANCING FOR INDONESIAN LNG

REF : JAKARTA 5365

1. DURING COURTESY CALL MAY 2, WIJARSO (GOI DIRECTOR OIL AND GAS) TOLD DEPASSTSEC (EA) EDMOND THAT ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO IN WASHINGTON, D.C., HE ASKED EXIM BOARD CHAIRMAN CASEY IF U.S. EXIM BANK'S POLICY WAS TO PROMOTE U.S. EXPORTS OR TO USE FINANCING TO SECURE ENERGY SUPPLIES FOR U.S. PUT DIFFERENTLY, WIJARSO SAID HE WANTED TO KNOW IF EXIM WAS PREPARED MAKE LOAN TO EITHER PERTAMINA OR U.S. COMPANY TO FINANCE PORTION OF LNG PROJECTS EVEN IF NONE OF OUTPUT SLATED FOR U.S.

2. WIJARSO SAID CASEY RESPONDED, "I DON'T KNOW BUT WILL TRY TO GET YOU ANSWER IN A WEEK AND SEND IT THROUGH THE EMBASSY." WIJARSO, WHO HAD JUST TALKED WITH JOHN NIZAR (PERTAMINA'S EXIM CONTACT), OBSERVED THAT OVER TWO WEEKS HAD PASSED AND SAID THAT NEITHER HE NOR NIZAR HAD HEARD FROM EXIM. SINCE EDMOND AND EMBOFF WERE UNAWARE WIJARSO-CASEY MEETING, WE SAID WE WOULD LOOK INTO MATTER.

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3. DURING CONVERSATION WIJARSO GAVE IMPRESSION

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PERTAMINA MAY BE CONSIDERING POSSIBLE SALE LNG TO U.S. COMPANIES OTHER THAN PACIFIC LIGHTING. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF QUESTION SEEKING CLARIFICATION, WIJARSO SAID, "IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE PERTAMINA MAY EVENTUALLY TALK WITH OTHER U.S. COMPANIES." HE ADDED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE CORRECT FOR PERTAMINA/GOI TO DISCUSS SALE WITH OTHER COMPANIES UNTIL FINAL DECISION TAKEN ON PL CONTRACT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PASS SUBSTANCE THIS MESSAGE TO JOE RAND (EXIM HONG KONG) AND EXIM WASHINGTON. JOE RAND WILL ARRIVE WASHINGTON, D.C., MAY 6 TO BRIEF CASEY ON RECENT VISIT TO INDONESIA. NEWSOM

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